

FOCAL POINT



Mayor's Message

Mike Simpson

Setting Priorities for 2008-2009

One thing that the city of Frisco is known for is the great job we do in planning the future of our city. This reputation goes back many years, and is a tribute to not only our present City Council, City Manager and staff, but also a tribute to the councils and mayors that preceded us especially during the growth years of Mayors Bob Warren and Kathy Seei. This city won an award for the best Comprehensive Plan in the state in 2000 and had an excellent group of citizens who were on what is called our Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee – or CPAC. In 2006 we were honored again with an award as 'best in the state' for our updated Comprehensive Plan, which was guided by an outstanding CPAC committee that worked with John Lettelleir, Director of our Planning and Development Services Department and his staff to develop that serves a guide for our future development.

Each year the City Council establishes a set of priorities to help us achieve many of the objectives set in our Comprehensive Plan. Our priority list also reflects the changing needs of our fast growing city. The City Council and staff met twice in February, which included day long and evening work session, to review priorities during the last fiscal year and began setting new ones for 2008-2009. This coming June, the newly elected Mayor and council members will review the priorities again and make any changes or recommendations and during its summer work session. The priorities below have

See **PRIORITIES**, page 2



Caroline Wolf is learning the ropes as a reporter for "Teen Beat." The segment is new to the Frisco Government Access Channel and features stories on Frisco places and programs that impact teenagers. Wolf is currently a junior at Frisco High School and is doing an internship with Frisco's Communications and Media Relations Department through Frisco ISD's Independent Study/Mentorship Program.

STAY CONNECTED with your city government

It is something just about everyone in our city can relate to: the hustle and bustle of busy lives. The rhythm of Frisco is a constant, driving beat of parents juggling careers and children, of students balancing school and soccer, of singles and senior adults organizing duties and downtime.

So how can you stay informed about what's happening at City Hall quickly and easily? Information about your city government is just a mouse or remote control click away. The city's Web site, www.friscotexas.gov and government access channel, FGAC, are two tools you can use to find out the very latest news, city programs and special events.

There is a wealth of information at your fingertips. Go to the homepage of www.friscotexas.gov. Enter a key word, or words, into the search function on the top right-side of the screen to quickly pull up the information you are looking for.

Under the search function on the home page are quick links to information vital to citizens and businesses. A link to 'Online Services' gives you quick access to do business online, including paying water bills and requesting accident reports from Frisco police.

Need answers? Click on 'Online Services' to find the link to our citizen 'Question and Answer Board'. Submit your questions, and the appropriate member of the staff will reply with an expert answer. Questions are screened before going live on the Web site to make sure no inappropriate language or comments are posted. You can also get in touch with city staff by clicking on the link to the 'City Directory'.

Also on the home page, read the latest

press releases, as well as alerts you need to know from road closures to updates about upcoming special events.

New to the Web site is a redesigned city calendar to better help you plan your schedule. Go to www.friscotexas.gov/calendar for a one-stop shop of all the city-sponsored events, meetings and citizen classes.

Tune into Frisco TV 24-hours a day, featuring national and state award winning programming. Frisco residents may view the City of Frisco's Government Access Channel (FGAC) on Time Warner Cable Channel 16 or Grande Cable Channel 12.

The latest City Council meeting airs three times a week, allowing you to catch up on the decisions your City Council members are making. The council meetings are also a great opportunity to hear from city directors about the important projects and accomplishments happening in their respective departments.

"Frisco Today" is a state award winning news magazine show featuring information about your city services and programs. Show segments include "News Around Town", a department or program profile; and the "Mayor's Corner", where you can watch Mayor Mike Simpson interview

New to the Frisco TV line up is "Teen Beat". Reporter Caroline Wolf is a junior at Frisco High School. Her segment focuses on stories that impact Frisco's teenagers. Look for her first story on what teens think of the Frisco Athletic Center to air soon.

For a complete list of Frisco TV program-

ming, go online to www.friscotexas.gov/friscotv.

ON THE TUBE...

Frisco TV
Time Warner Cable
(Ch.16)
Grande Cable (Ch. 12)

The most current City Council Meeting airs
Tuesdays at 9 a.m.;
Thursdays at 7 p.m. and
Saturdays at 2 p.m.
Check www.friscotexas.gov/friscotv
for a complete programming
schedule.

ON THE WEB....

friscotexas.gov –
City of Frisco, TX Web site
friscolibrary.com - Frisco Public
Library
friscofun.org – Frisco Athletic
Center
friscofire.com - Frisco Fire
Department
friscoedc.com - Economic
Development Corporation
visitfrisco.com - Convention and
Visitor's Bureau

friscotexas.gov/calendar:
NEW! Reveals the
2008 calendar of city-
sponsored events

Listings
continued
on next
page

Find it
fast!

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Visit us on the Web!

Check out
friscotexas.gov,
your complete guide to
the city government.

Look for the latest
alerts and
press releases on
the home page, or sign
up to receive City of
Frisco news to your
email address.

To subscribe, go to
the home page and
click on 'E-News'.

PRIORITIES

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some of the same major headings as our current priorities, but many of the sub-bullet points are different.

Roads and Transportation

- Continue to work with TxDOT, NTTA and other entities to facilitate planning and completion of major state road projects – 121, 423, Main St/3537, Eldorado/2934, Preston Road/289, Custer Rd./2478, 380
- Submit prioritization of road projects to Collin and Denton Counties and the RTC on roads to be built utilizing funds from the NTTA upfront payment to TxDOT on the SH 121 project.
- Continue focus on current projects and plans for future road projects initiated from 2006 City bond election and Collin County bond election, as well as possible future funding from Denton County bond election
- Continue focus on Traffic flow and congestion resulting from road construction
- Finalize and approve update of hike and bike trail master plan
- Evaluate transit study, review funding options and implement needed changes to maximize transportation for Frisco

Continue Downtown Revitalization and Development of Frisco Square

- Investigate resources capable of jump-starting redevelopment in the Old Downtown area
- Complete rehabilitation of old city buildings and develop long term strategy for ownership
- Promote old downtown as a destination area linked with Frisco Square
- Continue the reconstruction of old downtown streets and associated infrastructure
- Promote area as venue for community activities

Ongoing Maintenance of Maturing Areas of the City

- Continue to develop criteria and program elements for reviewing and sustaining maturing communities and infrastructure
- Insure HOA and/or neighborhood involvement through increased HOA interaction, seminars and continuing education
- Monitor and continue to evaluate reserve funds for appropriate requirements over next ten years

Park Development

- Continue development of the Grand Park master plan and begin implementation of Phase I
- Continue implementation of updated hike and bike trails per master plan including temporary trails and expanded parking capability
- Continue development of linear parks along creeks
- Focus on linking some existing trails internally and with adjacent cities, and promote linkages and available trails to citizens
- Continue implementation of Parks Master Plan and evaluation of needs for specialty parks
- Continue to acquire land

Develop and Maintain a Diversified Tax Base

- Continue focus on attracting corporate

and commercial growth

- Support efforts to attract out of region/out of state corporations
- Support Frisco Economic Development Corporation (FEDC) attraction, retention and formation of targeted business sectors
- Continue pro-business environment for all size businesses
- Develop strategy for expansion of businesses up the DNT and along 380 corridor
- Continue emphasis on providing a diversity of residential product and mixed use developments

Expand Cultural Offerings

- Finalize plans for a cultural arts and science center to include a community theatre
- Promote more cultural venues/events and art programs
- Continued emphasis on the Arts of Collin County project
- Continue promotion of visual arts in the city to include entrance monuments
- Form committee to research the feasibility of a four year university to complement existing higher educational facilities
- Continue to be a community that celebrates diversity and culture

Social Services

- Educate, support and promote the availability of existing services
- Continue financial support of organizations providing city essential services
- Promote use of CDBG funds and Housing Trust Fund programs to rehabilitate old downtown houses
- Investigate opportunities to expand and centralize social services offerings

Expand Youth Involvement in the City

- Continue to expand size and scope of Mayor's Youth Council
- Support expansion of youth sports/ entertainment venues/teen center

Expand Technology Utilization and Marketing of City

- Continue evaluation and improvement of city technology
- Continue to enhance the city website and add on-line services
- Implement new program for viewing Council meetings including utilization of streaming video
- Begin implementation of Public Safety Communication updates
- Establish an advisory committee, develop and implement a marketing and public relations campaign for the City
- Improve event coordination

Expand Environmental and Air Quality Actions

- Broaden and encourage water conservation programs
- Increase education programs
- Expand Green Building program
- Evaluate technology and options for recycling of construction materials

These priorities will be effective starting with our fiscal year which begins October 1, 2008. Even so, our staff begins planning for

these priorities now as they consider these goals while developing their budgets for next year. Our budgeting process takes more than six months, which includes a series of meetings and numerous reviews by the City Manager and our City Council.

I thought you should see these priorities well ahead of the start of our new fiscal year. There will be many opportunities for you to share your thoughts on these with your city council members and our city staff.

This spring we will celebrate the grand openings of several new parks, our Heritage Center Museum and a new fire station. I hope to see you at these events. It is an honor to serve as your Mayor and you have my commitment that I will continue to serve this city with the same 110% dedication that I have given over the past five years and nine months. This May will end my term as Mayor, as Frisco has term limits and I can no longer serve after six years of service. I appreciate your support and hope you will continue being actively involved in this great city we call home.

Sincerely,
Mayor Mike Simpson

CONNECTED

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friscotexas.gov/citycouncil:

An introduction to your Frisco City Council

friscotexas.gov/focalpoint:

Read the current and past editions of the city newsletter

friscotexas.gov/friscotv:

a schedule and description of programming

friscotexas.gov/police:

Frisco Police Department home page and list of police contact numbers

friscotexas.gov/recycle:

City of Frisco Environmental Services home page explains the city's recycling program.

friscotexas.gov/restaurantinspections:

Complete list of Frisco restaurants and their health scores

friscotexas.gov/safetytown:

Explore the Frisco Fire Department's unique place to teach children all about safety. Psst... it's also fun!

friscotexas.gov/scrapbook:

See photos of citizens from recent special events

friscotexas.gov/specialevents:

Plan ahead! Find out when and where city-sponsored events are happening

friscotexas.gov/water:

Learn more about the City of Frisco Water Conservation Plan, our city's water resources, and ET controller rebate plan

City seeking input on public transit study

The City of Frisco Planning and Development Services Department has scheduled a second public meeting on a public transit study. The meeting will be held on Monday, March 3 at 6:30 p.m. inside the City Hall Council Chambers of the George A. Purefoy

Municipal Center, 6101 Frisco Square Blvd.

The first public transit meeting was held last October and was used, in part, to gather input on public transportation needs in Frisco. On March 3, Planning and Development Services staff will present the

findings from the initial study, ask for reaction to the initial findings and finally, gather additional input on public transportation needs.

Contact Ryan Middleton at 972-292-5363 or rmiddleton@friscotexas.gov for more information.

CCART bus service to end March 1; city discontinuing contract

The contract between the City of Frisco and Collin County Area Regional Transit (CCART) is being discontinued. As a result, the free fixed route bus service will end on March 1, 2008.

On February 5, the Frisco City Council agreed to accept CCART's request to terminate the service; however, 'on-call' service for the elderly and disabled is not affected by this change.

In January, staff received notice that CCART cannot provide funding to help defer the \$249,600 annual cost to operate the single bus route in Frisco. In 2007, ridership for the calendar year totaled 12,707. If the City of Frisco were to continue service, at no cost to riders, it would cost the City of Frisco an estimated \$19.62 per ride. In 2006, Frisco's cost per ride was \$16.60 for a one-way trip and \$33.20 to go 'to and from' a location.

The original, 2004 agreement between the City of Frisco and CCART cost approximately \$100,000 a year. Last year, the council voted to terminate service in May of 2007 and use remaining monies dedicated to CCART for a Transit Study. At that time, CCART offered to continue service at 'no charge' while it searched for supplemental funds or grants to help defer the cost of service in Frisco.

In January, CCART notified the City of Frisco it was unable to secure supplemental funding, and as a result, CCART no longer has resources to continue the free service in Frisco.

The City of Frisco has since used the monies originally dedicated to the bus service for the Transit Study, at a cost of \$91,500. A Transit Study presentation will be made to the Frisco City Council in April.

A ROUND OF APPLAUSE please



From January 28 through February 8, students from 19 Frisco ISD schools collected phone books for the Environmental Valentine's Day Contest. On February 15, Mayor Mike Simpson and City Council Member Matt Lafata helped present to award to the students of Otis Spears Elementary School. The Spears students collected more phone books for recycling than any other school in the district – 4,622! Overall, FUSD students collected 24,628 phone books. Recycling those phone books saved an estimated 35,000 gallons of water, 2,050,000 kilowatts of electricity, 165 cubic feet of space in the landfill, and 1,250 trees!

THINKING green



Cub Scout Pack 419 learned all about recycling and reusable products on their tour with Jeremy Starritt, Environmental Education Coordinator, at the Frisco Environmental Collection Center.

High wind havoc; avoid a big mess on collection day



When gusty winds blow through town, trash and recycling carts often get knocked over and can even roll down alleyways and streets. In order to help prevent trash items from escaping and littering lawns, the Environmental Services Division recommends bagging all contents before placing in the carts.

We also have a solution to help you keep tabs on your cart during high winds. Address labels created especially for the

carts are available by request at EnvironmentalServices@FriscoTexas.gov or by writing to the "Green Team" at 11300 Research Rd., Frisco, TX 75034.

Please also remember to bag Styrofoam packing peanuts and place them in your trash cart to avoid the packing material from flying out and scattering around your neighborhood during high winds.

Remember Styrofoam and bubble

wrap material are not allowed in the recycling carts and should always be put in the trash bins. These products are also some of the biggest contaminators of recycling loads in Frisco.

Here's a tip – when ordering items to be shipped ask that bubble wrap and Styrofoam not be used in the packing process. Many companies have the ability to comply with this request.

Monthly Road Project Update

City of Frisco Engineering Services has the most current information on road projects available online. Go to www.friscotexas.gov/projectupdate.

CR 712 (Frisco St - North County)

Scope: Construction of four lanes from Frisco Street to the RR crossing and two lanes from the RR crossing to North County Road.

Design is 100 percent complete.

Est. start of construction is 2008.

2 City Hall Parking Garage (behind George A. Purefoy Municipal Center)

Scope: Construct a four to five story parking structure to accommodate roughly 500 cars. Currently under design.

Est. start of construction is 2008.

3 Rolater (Coit - Independence)

Scope: Construct a four-lane divided roadway, which will replace the existing dirt road.

Construction began December 2007.

Est. completion of construction is fall 2008.

4 Frisco Square Blvd. (Railroad Crossing)

Scope: Street connection of Frisco Square Blvd. across the railroad tracks from Cook Street to West Main Street. This is phase two of the Frisco Square Street Improvements.

Est. start of construction is summer 2008.

5 Eldorado Pkwy (DNT - Preston)

Scope: Construct the northern two lanes. This will complete four lanes of an ultimate six-lane roadway with median and includes three lanes of the overpass at the BNSF RR. Landscaping, irrigation, and street lighting are included in this project.

Design is 100 percent complete.

6 FM 2934/Eldorado Pkwy (FM 423 - DNT)

Scope: Replace existing two-lane asphalt roadway with a six-lane concrete roadway with median. Utilities have begun relocating facilities to

clear the area for construction.

Bid by TxDOT February 7, 2008.

Est. start of roadway construction is summer 2008.

7 FM 3537 Improvements (Preston - Custer)

Scope: Replace existing two-lane asphalt roadway with a six-lane concrete roadway with median.

Est. completion of design is October 2008.

8 FM 423 Improvements (Stewart Creek - Eldorado)

Scope: Replace existing two-lane asphalt roadway with a six-lane concrete roadway with median.

Est. start of construction is December 2008.

9 FM 423 Improvements (Eldorado Pkwy - US 380)

Scope: Replace existing two-lane asphalt roadway with six-lane concrete roadway with median.

Est. start of construction is May 2009.

10 Independence Parkway (SH121 - Main)

Scope: Construct the western two lanes of Independence Parkway from SH 121 to Rolater and four lanes from Rolater to Main Street. This will complete four lanes of an ultimate six-lane divided roadway.

Est. completion of construction is May 2008.

11 Lebanon (FM 423 - Presidents)

Scope: Construct the southern two lanes of Lebanon Road from Village to FM 423 including a three lane bridge at Stewart Creek. This will complete four lanes of an ultimate six-lane divided roadway.

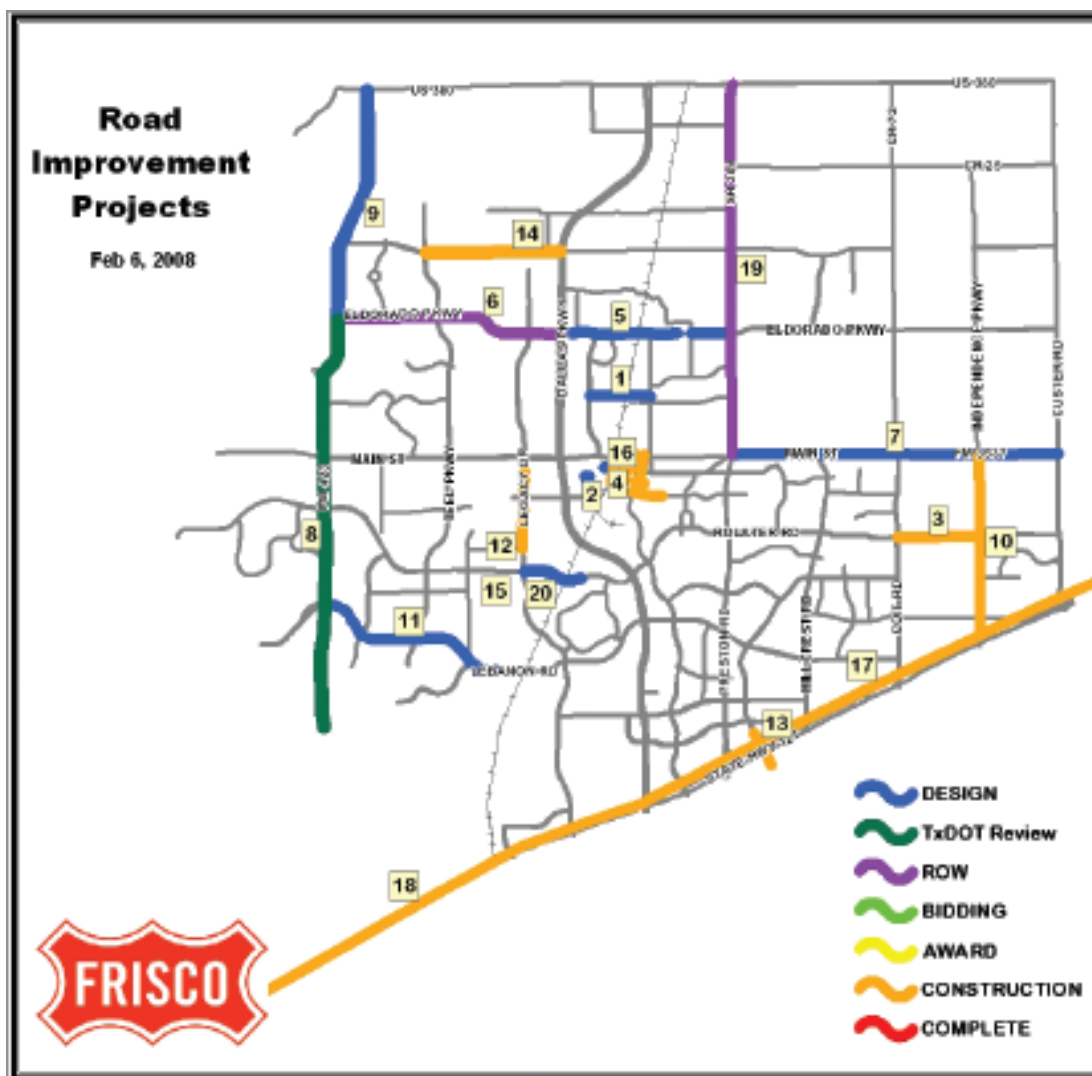
Est. start of construction is February 2008.

12 Legacy Drive (Citation - Main)

Scope: Construct the eastern three lanes. This will provide a six lane roadway in this section. Landscaping, irrigation, and street lighting are included in this project.

Estimated end of construction is March 2008.

13 Ohio Overpass (SH 121)



Scope: Ohio Drive Overpass at SH 121

Est. TxDOT completion of construction is Feb 2008.

14 Panther Creek Parkway (Teel - DNT)

Scope: Construction of four lane divided roadway including landscape, irrigation, and street lighting. Extend four lanes of Legacy Drive to connect with Panther Creek Parkway.

Construction underway
Est end of construction is August 2008.

15 Stonebrook Parkway (Legacy - Longhorn)

Scope: Construct four lanes with an underpass at the BNSF RR, a railroad shoofly and a bridge at Stewart Creek. Project includes federal wetland permits & environmental coordination.

Est. completion of design is June 2008 and permitting is May 2009.

16 Selected Old Town Streets

Scope: Reconstruction of the following streets to concrete with curb and gutter:

- First Street (West Main south to Ash) - Est. completion July 2008.
- Third (Oak north to Maple) - Opened November 2007
- Third (Main south to Ash) - Est. completion July 2008
- Fourth (Oak north to Maple) - Opened November 2007
- Sixth (Oak north to Maple) - Opened November 2007
- Sixth (Elm south to Hickory) - Est. completion February 2008
- Pecan (Fifth to Seventh) - Est. completion March 2008
- Hickory (Fifth to Courtyard Dr) - Est. completion February 2008

17 SH 121 Freeway (DNT - Hillcrest)

Scope: Construct main lanes

on SH 121 from Dallas North Tollway to Hillcrest.

Est. completion of construction is February 2008.

18 SH 121 Freeway (FM 544 - DNT)

Scope: Construct six main lanes and six lanes of frontage roads from FM 544 to Dallas North Tollway.

Est. completion of construction is early 2008.

19 SH 289/Preston Rd (Main - US 380)

Scope: Construct a six-lane divided roadway, which will replace the existing two-lane asphalt roadway. \$2 million of the City of Frisco's \$4.5 million dollar participation in this project pays for the previous construction of Preston Road south of Main Street. Currently, land is being acquired for the road widening.

Est. start of construction is mid-2008.

TRICK-A-TROUT

It's no fish tale... the City of Frisco Parks and Recreation Department estimates more than 1,000 people attended the fourth annual Trick-A-Trout Kid Fish on Saturday, February 9. The pond at Frisco Commons Park was

packed all morning and well into the afternoon. You can view more photos from Trick-A-Trout and other city-sponsored events online on our Citizens' Scrapbook. See for yourself at www.friscotexas.gov/scrapbook.



EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA hops to a new location!

When: Saturday, March 8
9 a.m. to noon
(Egg hunt begins at 10:30 a.m.)

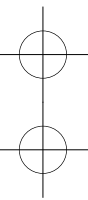
Where: Pizza Hut Park
(Main Street @ DNT)
Fields 9 - 14

FREE and open to children ages toddler to 12 years

The Easter Bunny will be hopping his way to Frisco a little early. He has more than 65,000 eggs to spread out for this year's Easter Eggstravaganza, and a new location to scatter the goodies. Easter Eggstravaganza moves from Warren Sports Complex to Pizza Hut Park, in fields 9 through 14.

Kids can do more than hunt eggs. There are crafts to make and games to play. Mr. and Mrs. Cotton Tail will also be available for pictures. Show your creative side and decorate a bonnet or necktie to enter for prizes. The Easter bonnet and tie contest is open to all ages.

In the event of stormy weather call the Parks and Recreation special event hotline to check for a cancellation: (972) 292-6520. The make-up date is March 15 at 10:30 a.m., and only the Easter egg hunt will be held.



HOMETOWN HAPPENINGS

March 3

- Frisco Public Arts Board Meeting, Conference Room 5A, 6:30 p.m.

March 4

- Downtown Advisory Board, 5th Floor Conference Room, 12 p.m.
- City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 6:30 p.m.

March 10

- Frisco Square Municipal Management District Meeting, Conference Room 3A, 4:30 p.m.

March 11

- Planning & Zoning (P&Z) Meeting, Council Chambers 6:30 p.m.

March 12

- Convention Visitors Bureau (CVB), TBD, 12 p.m.
- Arts of Collin County (ACC), City of Allen 4 p.m.
- Housing Trust Fund, Council Chambers, 6:30 p.m.

March 13

- Parks and Recreation Meeting, Council Chambers, 6:30 p.m.

March 17

- Frisco Neighborhood Watch General Meeting, Police Department, 7:30pm

March 18

- City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 6:30 p.m.

March 19

- Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors Meeting (EDC), 6801 Gaylord Parkway, 6 p.m.

March 25

- Heritage Association, Council Chambers, 10 a.m.
- Planning & Zoning (P&Z) Meeting, Council Chambers 6:30 p.m.

March 26

- Urban Forestry Board, 6726 Walnut Street, 6:30 p.m.

March 27

- North Texas Municipal Water District Meeting, 505 East Brown Street, Wylie, TX. 4 p.m.
- Community Development Corporation (CDC) Meeting, Conference Room 3A, 6:30 p.m.
- Frisco Public Library Foundation Board Meeting, Library Programming Room, 6:45 p.m.

Spring Break 2008 at Frisco Fire Safety Town

Are you still trying to decide what fun and educational things you could do with your children during spring break? Come to Frisco Fire Safety Town! During the week of March 17 through March 21 Frisco Fire Safety Town will have daily scheduled safety presentations for elementary-aged children.

Each day's programming will feature a different safety topic and last approximately one hour. Classes will be held four times daily starting at 9:00 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.; 1:30 p.m.; & 3:00 p.m. Call Frisco Fire Safety Town at 972-292-6350 today to reserve your spot. Classes may fill up quickly! Visit us online at friscotexas.gov/safetytown.

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Monday | Bicycle Safety |
| Tuesday | Outdoor Safety |
| Wednesday | Weather Safety |
| Thursday | Fire Safety |
| Friday | Open for Tours |

Classes allow citizens to go behind the scenes of the Frisco Fire Department

Citizen's Fire Academy

The Frisco Fire Department is now accepting applications for the Citizen's Fire Academy (CFA) Class No. 21 starting Thursday, March 27, 2008. CFA classes provide the community with information about the operation and organization of the Frisco Fire Department. The academy is open to those over the age of 18 who live or work within the City of Frisco.

The nine-week program meets weekly on Thursday nights from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

CFA classes cover an array of captivating themes including fire ground operations, emergency medical services, arson investigation and fire safety education. In addition to the classroom lessons taught by Frisco Fire personnel, CFA participants will have many opportunities for hands on activities, including fire extinguisher training, the use of powerful rescue tools during an extrication demonstration, going inside a burning building while dressed in bunker gear and riding with Frisco Fire personnel as they respond to actual emergency calls.

Community Emergency Response Team

The Frisco Fire Department is also accepting applications for Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Class No.13, which starts March 24, 2008. CERT classes train citizens to give critical support to first responders in emergencies and provide assistance in the event of a major disaster.

The nine-week program meets Monday nights from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. It is open to those persons over the age of 18 who either live or work within the City of Frisco. During classes, citizens study a variety of disaster topics such as medical operations, severe weather, infection control, team organization, light search and rescue and many others.

The newly acquired skills CERT team members learn during their training will also have an impact on their every day safety and preparedness in and around their home and families.

Applications for CERT or CFA classes are available for download at www.friscofire.com or can be picked up at any Frisco Fire Station. If interested or for more information, contact the Frisco Fire Department at 972-292-6300 during normal business hours.



The Thursday class of Frisco Fire Safety Town's Spring Break curriculum will focus on fire safety. During the class children can experience what it is like when smoke fills a room, and learn how to escape if it happens in their home.

Young Children at High Risk for Burn Injuries

Burns and scalds can be deadly, especially to children younger than five. Nationally, 600 children die and another 100,000 children are treated for burn-related injuries annually, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

Young children have thinner skin that burns more deeply and quickly than adult skin. In a matter of seconds, children can sustain devastating physical and emotional injury. Kitchens and bathrooms can be the most deadly area of your home, especially for children.

- When cooking, use back burners when possible and keep pot handles turned to the inside so they don't stick out over the front of the stove. If left within reach, a curious child might grab or tip the pot over onto them.

- Electrical cords for cooking appliances should be kept away from counter edges. This will prevent a child from pulling appliances off counter-tops and onto them.

- Test bath water before putting your child into the bathtub. Children can be scalded by

bath water in only a few seconds. Set your water heater to 120 degrees Fahrenheit or below and always provide supervision.

- Keep matches and lighters out of children's reach.

- Burns should be treated by running cool water over the burned area within the first few minutes of injury.

- Smoke alarms should be installed on every level and in every sleeping area of your home. Test them once a month and replace batteries when necessary. Working smoke alarms provide early warning detection allowing more time to escape a fire. Newer smoke alarm technology is available with voice recording capabilities to alarm young children of fire, providing a better chance of waking them in a real emergency.

A home escape plan should be developed identifying two ways out of each room, a meeting place outside, and a way to contact the fire department once you are outside. Practice the plan regularly, at least annually, to make sure that everyone knows what to do when the smoke alarm sounds.

Homebuyer Assistance Training Down payment assistance offers help to first-time homebuyers

The City of Frisco offers two down payment assistance programs through the Housing Trust Fund for first-time homebuyers. The first program is available to help low and moderate income families with at least one adult who works in the city limits. The second program is specifically for those who work for the city or Frisco ISD.

The City of Frisco hosts an eight hour HUD-approved homebuyer training program throughout the year. The next class happens Saturday, March 8 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

To find out if you qualify and how to apply for the program, go online to friscotexas.gov/downpayment. You may also contact Stacy Brown at 972-292-5114 for more information.

TAKE A PEAK AT OUR

progress



Are your kids counting down the days to summer break? Late this spring there will be a brand new option for fun in Frisco. The Frisco Athletic Center Outdoor Pool area is on target to be complete by Memorial Day weekend with a grand opening celebration set for Saturday, May 24.

Pictured is the latest look at construction on the two water slides. Your family will also

have a great time using the other outdoor aquatic features, including a 600 linear foot lazy river, a lagoon pool and a large interactive play structure designed for young children.

The outdoor area will have multiple interactive spray features for the kids and shade structures. The outdoor area will also have pavilions capable of hosting birthday parties, reunions and other functions.

Enjoy the great outdoors with Frisco's Parks & Trails

This is the first spring that many of Frisco's newest neighborhood parks will be open. The city offers a variety of park facilities and amenities to suit all lifestyles. There's a park for everyone, from sports and nature enthusiasts, to parents and kids looking for fun on the playground.

The Parks & Recreation Department is continual-

ly working to make the Frisco a bicycle and pedestrian friendly community and maintains hike and bike trails in the city. Whether you stroll, run or cycle there's a path for you.

To learn more about Frisco's parks and trails, or to view Frisco's Hike and Bike Master Plan, go online to friscotexas.gov/parksandtrails.

Candidate filing underway for three council seats, including mayoral position

Candidates interested in running for Frisco City Council may now file for a place on the May 2008 ballot. The last day to file for Frisco City Council is March 10.

Three seats, including the Mayoral position and Places 5 and 6, will be open. All positions on the Frisco City Council are "at large" positions. Candidates must reside in the City of Frisco one year prior to filing.

Candidate "information packets" – which detail the minimum requirements for filing for office – may be picked up at the City Secretary's Office, 5th Floor, City Hall, George A. Purefoy Municipal Complex, 6101 Frisco Square Blvd. Candidate packets are available now, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Early voting, by personal appearance, begins April 28 – May 6. Voters may cast early ballots at Frisco Fire Station #4, 4485 Cotton Gin; Preston Ridge Campus, Collin County Community

College, 9700 Wade Blvd.; and the Collin County Elections Office, 2010 Red Bud Blvd., Suite 102, in McKinney.

Early voting hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. The General Election will be held Saturday, May 10 from 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Aside from electing city representatives, voters will be considering a referendum regarding an ordinance regulating 'late hours' alcohol sales.

In an effort to provide voter convenience and encourage higher voter turnout, the City of Frisco will continue to offer three polling locations. Voters must cast ballots at their designated polling place, on Election Day only. Voters are encouraged to bring their voter registration cards.

For additional information, please contact the Office of the City Secretary at (972) 292-5010 or via email at Nparker@frisco-texas.gov

Spring Frisco Fun guide available in March

Has your winter routine been a little dull? Break out of the rut this spring by finding plenty to do in the latest edition of the "Frisco Fun" activity guide. The guide will be available online beginning Monday, March 3, at www.FriscoFun.org.

Frisco residents will also begin receiving the guide in their mailbox during this week. You can also pick-up a copy at one of the following locations: the Frisco Public Library, Chamber of Commerce located at 6843 Main St., or the Parks & Recreation Administration Building at 6727 Walnut St.

The Frisco Fun activity guide contains information on classes, programs and leagues offered through the Parks & Recreation

Department. You can also plan ahead for summer vacation. The spring guide is filled with information on camps and other activities for the kids while they are out of school.

Registration for spring classes begins March 3 for Frisco Athletic Center (FAC) members. In order to benefit from this early registration, monthly members must have a current membership at the time that the class begins. Click on E-Fun on the FAC Web site at www.friscofun.org.

Non-members may begin registering for classes March 5. Registration is available online, by mail or in-person at the Frisco Athletic Center, located at 5828 Nancy Jane Lane, during regular hours of business.

Cuisine for a modern library

ANN ROSEMAN

ADULT SERVICES
LIBRARY ASSISTANT

Although many colorful displays entice readers at the Frisco Public Library, there is one book display which remains consistently popular among our patrons: the fabulous, ever-changing cookbook display.

The cookbook display, which is located near the main entrance to the fourth floor of the library,

offers themed selections from our cookbook collection. Whether you wish to prepare spicy salsas or luscious cakes, the collection serves to delight the enthusiastic palette. Be sure to visit this display often because many of the works, including Alice Waters or Emeril Lagasse, are quickly snatched up.

Whether you desire vast vegetarian fare or bountiful beef stews, our cookbook collection offers diverse recipes from around the world. For local fla-

vor, be sure to consult our cookbooks featuring traditional Southwestern and Texas dishes.

The connoisseur of international flavors may enjoy recipes from a variety of cultures, including India, Asia, Vietnam or Cuba. Those cooks wishing to return to the classics may be interested in the 75th anniversary edition of the Joy of Cooking, The New York Times Cookbook, or Julia Child's Mastering the Art of French Cooking. You can also find recipes from Ruth Reichl,

the editor of Gourmet magazine, in Garlic and Sapphires and The Gourmet Cookbook.

Vegetarians will love our large selection of specialty cookbooks, including Vegetable Dishes I Can't Live Without and the Vegetarian Times Complete Cookbook.

And finally, if you are looking for the hottest, newest titles, be sure to look for Deceptively Delicious: Simple Secrets to Get Your Kids Eating Good Foods and Nigella Express: 130 Recipes

for Good Food, Fast.

After whipping together culinary creations from our cookbook collection, be sure to browse the equally delicious options available in the elaborate fiction and non-fiction collections of the fourth floor.

For more information on the cookbook collection or any other book collection available at the Frisco Public Library, please consult our Web site at www.friscolibrary.com or call 972-292-5669.

Thank Heaven for Little Girls

From twirls and twists to the "Chicken Dance," every step made the 2008 Daddy Daughter Dance, "Carousel of Dreams" a night to remember. Hundreds of lovely little ladies put on their prettiest dresses along with beautiful smiles, while their fathers beamed with pride.

This was the 12th year for the event held February 16 at the Frisco Conference Center. A total of 5,497 daddies and daughters attended during four different dance times.

The City of Frisco's Parks and Recreation Department sponsors the event each year. A big thank you to the volunteers who helped make this year's Daddy Daughter Dance a big success!

